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10 Ways to Take Facebook Pictures Like Teens



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This post is dedicated to Jackie Beyer who gave me the idea for this post with one of her brilliant Public Speaking class speeches (her pictures are cool though).

I do A LOT of talks and speaking engagements to kids, middle schoolers, teens, tweens and High School students about being safe online, cyberbullying and social networks. One topic that always goes over well (afterall I have to give them something to laugh about a little...and I never mind if they are laughing at me) is my imitation of teen's typical profile picture.



If you need a quick primer on what social networking is, just check out my [Growing Up Online](#) series!

If you have ever taken a look at your kid's or someone else's kid's profile picture you might recognize the following:

1) The Oops-I-Am-Sexy

I think teens especially have these pictures up that are deliberately sexy, but they are trying not to look deliberately sexy. I took a few for your amusement. This picture usually involves lip pouting, low-cut tops, and lots of make-up.

2) The Backs

Boys love this one. It is just usually a series of people walking together and you can only see their backs or butts. (Backs are usually a group of boys, butts usually a bunch of girls).

3) The Oh-I-Am-So-Awesome-I-Don't-Need-To-Look-At-the-Camera



I love these pictures, I think I have one on my Facebook page right now. Teens love to do them when they are clearly looking at nothing, they just want a good side profile pic.

4) The Lets-Get-As-Many-People-in-This-Picture-As-Possible

This is when there is a group of about one thousand friends all squeezed into a single frame—piled on the couch, in a mac built-in iSight or on a bed.

5) The Zoolander

You know this one! No smile, dead serious, very intense. But because they are trying to look dead serious and intense, it usually ends up just looking funny.

6) The I-Am-Brooding-and-Dark-But-I-Am-Still-Sexy

This is a picture of usually hair hanging in front, no smile and modelesque...without, of course, trying to look too modelesque.

7) The Borneo Laugh



Soundtrack to this picture: “Oh my goodness you are so funny, no way funnier than me, oh my gosh I have never laughed so hard in my life, LOLOLOLOLOL, my face hurts I am laughing so hard.”

8) The I-Am-Jumping-And-Look-Really-Really-Happy

Why do teen girls like to jump so much in their pictures?

9) The Badly Lit Picture...and I am probably sexy but you just can't see me.

There are so many profile pictures of teens that would probably be really good (or just one of the above) but they are so poorly lit that you can barely make out it is a person.



10) The I-Have-My-Mouth-Open-in-Every-Picture -And-Still-Look-Sexy

There are some teens that literally never close their mouth. It's like they are saying “hey” in every picture.

I have most every type of picture on my profile I am sure from when I am a teen (and early twenties...oops), all out of love, which does your teen have?

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12 Responses to “10 Ways to Take Facebook Pictures Like Teens”



1. Akanksha
09. Dec, 2008 at 1:45 am <#>

I'm a teen, and I can totally relate :P Love the pictures by the way. xD



2. [Shirley](#)
19. Feb, 2009 at 1:06 pm <#>

I think this post is really funny!



3. [online games for kids](#)
18. May, 2009 at 2:24 am <#>

it is so funny yet so true! =DD, nice post!



4. [ys](#)
22. Jun, 2009 at 1:54 am <#>

HAHAHAHAH hey this is darn true.



5. [ys](#)
22. Jun, 2009 at 1:54 am <#>

HAHAHAHAH hey this is darn true.



6. [ys](#)
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[ys](#)22. Jun, 2009 at 1:54 am <#>

HAHAHAHAH hey this is darn true.



9.

[ys](#)22. Jun, 2009 at 1:54 am <#>

HAHAHAHAH hey this is darn true.



10.

[Mikki](#)12. Nov, 2009 at 3:30 pm <#>

i am a tween but, almost a teen(can't wait!!!) But any way this is so true...mine right now is a picture of me with my tongue out off to the side with a small smile on my face!



11.

mum of teen in oz

05. Dec, 2009 at 11:07 pm <#>

Just wondering – what is with the tongue hanging out in photos thing with teens (just as described in post below by Mikki)? Is it a fashion or something? (just trying to understand my teen). Thanks for a fantastic site btw!

Trackbacks/Pingbacks

1. [How to take a Facebook picture as if you're a teenager – Absurd Intellectual](#) - 26. Nov, 2009

[...] blog post on RadicalParenting.com made me laugh — it's a list of the most-popular poses for teenager photos on Facebook. Of course, they miss the classic self-portrait-where-you-can-see-my-arm and the [...]

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About Vanessa Van Petten

Vanessa Van Petten, youthologist and teen author of the parenting book “You’re Grounded!,” manages RadicalParenting.com, a parenting blog written by 119 teen writers, ages 12-20 to help

for teens and adults get an honest and open view into the world and mind of youth. Van Petten's work and blog have been featured in the Wall Street Journal, Teen Vogue, CNN, Fox News, Real Housewives of Orange County and much more! She won the Moms Choice Award in 2009 and her work is read by over 300,000 adults.

[Read her story here...](#)

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